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**TRANSMITTAL  
FORM**

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

40

Application Number

10/602,288

Filing Date

June 24, 2003

First Named Inventor

BECKER

Art Unit

3676

Examiner Name

KYLE, MICHAEL J.

Attorney Docket Number

200-80

**ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)**

<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance communication to Technology Center (TC)
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached	<input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences
<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition	<input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)
<input type="checkbox"/> After Final	<input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application	<input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information
<input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)	<input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address	<input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter
<input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):
<input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request	<input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund	Postcard
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement	<input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)	<b>Remarks</b>	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/Incomplete Application	Please charge any fee deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.	
<input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53		

**SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT**

Firm or Individual name	Mark D. Passler, Registration No. 40,764 Akerman Senterfitt		
Signature			
Date	1-6-05		

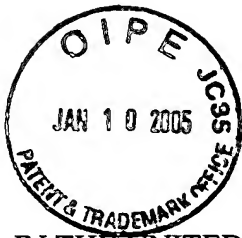
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Typed or printed name	Mark D. Passler		
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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT  
IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: BECKER et al.

Application No. 10/602,288

Examiner: KYLE, Michael J.

Filed: June 24, 2003

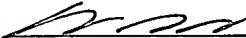
Group Art Unit: 3676

For: CLEARANCE FEE HINGE FOR AN AUTOMOTIVE VEHICLE SEAT

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT PURSUANT TO 37 CFR §1.97(b)**

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 Reg. No. 40,764  
Mark D. Passler

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Pursuant to the Duty to Disclose under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, the references cited on the accompanying form PTO/SB/08A are hereby brought to the attention of the Examiner for independent evaluation. In accordance with the Rules in effect for applications filed after June 30, 2003, copies of U.S. patents and/or patent application publications are not enclosed. A copy of each foreign language reference is enclosed, as well as an English language abstract where available. The references were cited in a Search Report prepared by the European Patent Office on a corresponding European application. Please note that U.S. Patent No. 6,408,523 is the English language equivalent of German Patent No. 196 14 691 cited in the European Search Report. Also, please note that German Patent No. 197 31 305 was cited in a previously filed Information Disclosure Statement. A copy of the Search Report is enclosed, which satisfies the requirement for a concise explanation of relevance of foreign-language references.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicants respectfully request that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

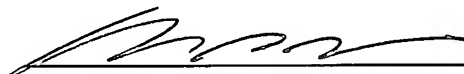
Certification

It is hereby certified that each item of information contained in this information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

As this information disclosure statement is being filed under 37 CFR §1.97(e) after issuance of a Non-Final Office Action, a fee is not required for consideration of these documents. Nevertheless, should a fee be deemed to be due by the Commissioner, such fee should be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-0951.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: 1-6-04

  
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Docket No. 200-80

